

PETITION

Amendment to the Agreement signed between the World Health Organization and the International Atomic Energy Agency of, 28th May 1959.

Addressees: Mm Margaret Chan, Director General of the WHO and Minister of Health (of your country)

Madam, Director General,

Sir, Madam, Minister of Health,

Ladies and Gentlemen, delegates of the World Health Assembly,

The undersigned request that the revision of the Agreement W.H.O./IAEA (Res. WHA 12.40, of 28 May 1959) should be in place at the next World Health Summit.

47 years ago, at the outset of the program "Atoms for Peace," the World Health Assembly made an Agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Later, since the Chernobyl disaster, it is evident that this agreement has prevented medical experts and above all, the WHO from speaking out loudly and clearly concerning the medical consequences both short and long term of this global catastrophe, given that this would have harmed the vital interests of the IAEA.

1. According to Article 1§2, "The WHO is aware that the principal task of the IAEA is to encourage, assist and co-ordinate research projects worldwide and the practical use of atomic energy with peaceable conclusions..." Article 1 § 3. foresees that "each time either party suggests the undertaking of a programme or activity which affords or could afford a major interest for the other party, the first consults the second with a view to a common settlement."

Article 1 should be amended by shortening this sentence as follows: "The first party will inform the other" (full stop). In fact, if an exchange of information between two United Nations' Agencies is perfectly correct the consultations between the WHO and the IAEA with regard to altering the facts in the interest of promoting nuclear energy are certainly not.

2. According to article 3, the WHO and the IAEA. realize that they might have to take certain restrictive measures to safeguard the nature of certain documents... the disclosure of which ... would somehow jeopardize the smooth running of their operations."

Article 3 must be withdrawn. In fact, it is unacceptable that the WHO accepts the confidentiality of this data which would hamper the smooth running of the IAEA. Besides, this clause is in contravention of the WHO's Constitution, which reminds us that all information of public opinions is one of the conditions essential to achieve "Health for all Mankind".

3. According to article 7, the IAEA and the WHO are committed to avoid a double role when collecting, assembling and publishing the statistics and to confer with one another in order to make the best use of information, resources and technical personnel in the statistics' department, including all statistics which have a bearing on a common interest."

Article 7 must be withdrawn. In fact the WHO, one of whose constitutional factions is to "act as a leading authority and co-ordinator in domain of health," must henceforth regain its independence from the IAEA in the field of research and publications. The WHO must regain total independence with regard to commercial nuclear power, in order to assure the protection of mankind.

We would like you to request that at the next World Health Assembly, in May 2007 in Geneva, the revision of the Agreement WHO/ IAEA become part of the agenda, in accordance with the rules and that the presentation and adoption of the three amendments, above mentioned is put in place or that the Agreement should be denounced as is provisioned in Article 12. We consider that the catastrophe of Chernobyl has been such an enormous disaster for millions of people inhabiting this planet that it is now high time that the true facts and their consequences are brought to light, and that effective and long term aid can be set up for all people affected.

Name/First name	Address	Association (if any)	Signature

Replies sent to :Madam Director General of WHO - 20 Avenue Appia - 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland Mail : inf@who.int and to the Minister of Health of your country. **Make further copies of this petition and distribute them to as many people as possible !** Petition launched by Children of Chernobyl-Belarus, CRII-RAD, the French Nuclear Phase-out Network, Contratom Geneva, SDN Loire et Vilaine and Brut de Béton Production. **Contact** : andre.lariviere@sortirdunucleaire.fr www.independentwho.info